

**UNM SCHOOL OF LAW
FACULTY MEETING**

Tuesday, October 16, 2007

The meeting was called to order at 3:09 p.m.

Attendance: Norman Bay, Kip Bobroff, Michael Browde, Sherri Burr, Louis Caldera, Chris Fritz, Eileen Gauna, Erik Gerding, Laura Gómez, April Land, John LaVelle, Antoinette Sedillo Lopez, Nathalie Martin, Jenny Moore, Mike Norwood, Ted Occhialino, Daniel Ortega, Sergio Pareja, Carol Parker, Suellyn Scarnecchia, Rob Schwartz, Carol Suzuki, Gloria Valencia-Weber, Christine Zuni Cruz

Students: Joshua Allison, Brian Close, Esteli Juarez Cotto

Staff: Sandra Bauman, Susan Mitchell, Bonnie Stepleton, Bill Uher

Guests: Chief Judge William Lang, William Stratvert, Briggs Cheney, Rick Cravens, Judge Michael Bustamante, Judge Joseph Alarid

I. Approval of Minutes

- a. It was moved and seconded to approve the minutes of the faculty meeting held on May 8, 2007. Upon a vote the minutes were approved with no corrections or additions.
- b. It was moved and seconded to approve the minutes of the faculty meeting held on August 21, 2007. Upon a vote the minutes were approved with no corrections or additions.
- c. It was moved and seconded to approve the minutes of the faculty meeting held on September 18, 2007. Upon a vote the minutes were approved with no corrections or additions.

II. Announcements

- a. Dean Scarnecchia made the following announcements:
 - i. Judge Harris Hartz accepted the nomination and invitation to be the School of Law's graduation speaker in May 2008.
 - ii. Tickets were still available for Friday, October 19th's Distinguished Achievement Awards Dinner.
 - iii. Faculty and students were strongly encouraged to attend the Thursday, October 25th, Weihofen Chair presentation to Jim Ellis.
 - iv. Positive feedback regarding the pre-visit by ABA Site Team Chair Steve Willborn was detailed. Faculty were reminded to be available during the site visit based on the distributed schedule. Associate Dean Mike Norwood explained that time-frames marked with an asterisk indicated unstructured time where team members might be visiting classes or contacting faculty members for individual interaction.
- b. Professor Jenny Moore announced the Darfur awareness event on Saturday, October 20, at 2:30 p.m. and asked for attendance from both faculty and students.

III. Lawyer Assistance Program (LAP)

- a. Briggs Cheney; Bill Stratvert, Chair; Chief Judge William Lang; and Rick Cravens presented information about the program as well as personal testimonials.
- b. Three main items were highlighted:
 - i. The committee, whose description predominantly included:
 1. a “hotline,” which provides a venue to listen, make suggestions and possibly a follow-up call; and
 2. the meetings, which currently occur once monthly but may begin including a second morning monthly option.
 - ii. The desire for law student involvement on the committee, which would allow LAP representation to SOL and vice versa.
 - iii. The desire for greater opportunities to make presentations at SOL on a regular and ongoing basis.
- c. Open discussion followed the presentation with all four guests fielding questions.

IV. Court of Appeals Building

- a. Judges Bustamante and Alarid presented the current plans and time-line for the new Court of Appeals Building.
- b. Judge Bustamante detailed a brief history of the project to date, showed “elevation” depictions of the building, and described the ways the building will be “green.”
- c. They discussed the intentions for office space occupation (judges, externs, mediation office, courtroom with one-way viewing for classes), and announced the building will be named in memory of Justice Pamela Minzner.
- d. Discussion ensued regarding parking impact and potential future plans for the space currently occupied by the Court.

V. Admissions

- a. Susan Mitchell, Assistant Dean of Admissions and Financial Aid, utilized a set of handouts and a PowerPoint presentation to detail admission statistics and recruitment activities.
- b. She pointed out the difficulty UNM has competing with school able to offer more monetary incentives to applicants.
- c. Faculty were strongly encouraged to participate in recruitment efforts while on academic trips during the school year. Dean Scarnecchia stressed the importance of faculty and alum recruitment participation.
- d. Open discussion followed Assistant Dean Mitchell’s presentation.

VI. Academic Support

- a. Bonnie Stepleton, Assistant Dean of Student Services, described the efforts of the Academic Support program to date:
 - i. individual ongoing meetings with seven students, each of whom have faculty advisors (advisors were thanked);
 - ii. committee in process of bringing in a trainer for the faculty during spring semester;
 - iii. tutors (who were described as enthusiastic, brainstorming, having excellent attendance and support for one another) had completed second training session;

- iv. a debt management seminar by Professor Nathalie Martin is planned;
- v. practice exams for 1Ls are coming up and faculty are asked to provide as much feedback as possible, especially if students seem to be struggling;
- vi. various workshops have been presented by faculty members (who were thanked)
- b. The details of Spring graduation were also announced:
 - i. Honors Reception will be Friday, May 16 at 4:00 p.m. inside the Albuquerque Museum
 - ii. Graduation: Saturday, May 17, at 1:00 p.m. on the back yard of the Law School.
- c. Questions, comments and clarification were invited for her entire presentation.

VII. Faculty Appointments

Professor Leo Romero provided details on the progress of the Natural Resource position search. The committee had received 70 applications, which were culled down to 26. Ten individuals will be interviewed at AALS and 16 telephone interviews will be conducted in the effort to narrow down the field to three or four candidates to invite for on campus interviews, hopefully by the end of the semester. The field included a fair number of both entry-level and lateral applicants.

VIII. Strategic Planning – Student Outcomes

Associate Dean Michael Norwood described a draft of the next step in planning for Carnegie implementation. The purpose is to see if there is general agreement on outcomes: whether any wording changes are necessary or if any additional questions should be included. Faculty should direct their input to Associate Dean Norwood, as soon as possible. A survey will be generated using “Survey Monkey” and sent via internet. Dean Scarnecchia indicated the next faculty meeting will include a discussion on outcomes and asked everyone to encourage their colleagues to attend the Strategic Planning meetings as they are very important to the Law School’s future development.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:52 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Sandra Bauman
Administrative Assistant to the Dean